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February 4, 1983

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE ACTING SECRETARY OF STATE

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

SUBJECT:

National Security Council Planning

Group Decisions (S)

At the meeting of the NSPG on Lebanon on Friday, February 4, 1983, the following decisions were made:

- o Ambassador Habib is authorized to return to the Middle East to pursue negotiations with the Governments of Israel and Lebanon on the American plan already submitted. He should also confirm the Syrian and PLO commitment to withdraw from Lebanon and seek to conclude a final schedule and other related arrangements for the withdrawal.
- o In the event that the proposals in the current plan for the security zone in southern Lebanon are unacceptable to Israel, Habib is authorized to say that the United States is prepared to deploy additional units of its contingent of the MNF into the southern zone temporarily until Lebanese and/or other non-Israeli forces are capable of securing the area. The Department of State is requested to forward proposals for discreet consultations with Congress no later than noon, February 5.
- o The President requested that studies begin immediately on "worst case" scenarios and policies in the event that current negotiations fail. These should include both positive and negative incentives we can use with the Arabs and Israelis to bring a speedy withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon and progress on the September 1 peace initiative. (S)

FOR THE PRESIDENT:

William P. Clark

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